

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced that Iranian artillery would again shell Basra starting at 1230 GMT on 8 March in retaliation for an Iraqi missile attack on Masjed Soleyman the previous evening, and for an earlier Iraqi air raid on Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. Iraqi planes also attacked Abadan on 7 March, killing 9 people and wounding 48, according to IRNA. For Iraq's part, a military communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio said the Iraqi Air Force dealt "smashing blows" to Iranian military targets, and reported another "successful" air strike against a "large maritime target" near Khark Island. The communique also confirmed that Iran carried out its threat to shell Basra and Mandali on 7 March.

Commenting on the shelling in a speech broadcast by the Voice of the Masses, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn said Iraq's response to the Iranian shelling was to initially choose targets in two areas and only strike other areas if the shelling was repeated, because "our aim is not to kill the largest possible number, but to convince the Iranian people that their rulers are wrong." As for Iran's retaliatory capabilities, the Iranian Air Force commander emphasized that his pilots are ready to carry out missions "deep inside Iraqi territory at the earliest time," according to the radio.

Lebanon

An IDF soldier was killed in the exchange of fire between the IDF and the Lebanese Army near Kawthariyat al-Siyad on 7 March, Jerusalem radio announced. The radio also cited Lebanese security reports that two members of the Amal movement were killed and a number of Lebanese soldiers were wounded in the battle. Contradicting Lebanon's account of the incident, the radio accused the Lebanese Army of initiating the clash by opening fire at Israeli forces which were pursuing cars containing "suspicious" persons. Senior IDF sources took a "grave" view of the incident, the radio said, but attributed it to a "local Lebanese initiative."

Meanwhile, UNIFIL sources announced that the army of southern Lebanon (ASL) killed a girl and wounded three women in the southern village of Yatar, according to Jerusalem radio. The ASL denied reports that its men also fired at Irish UNIFIL soldiers, the radio noted. Beirut radio accused the IDF of killing two Lebanese with "indiscriminate" fire during search operations in the village of Al-Qusaybah.

PLO

Agreement With Jordan — Jordanian King Husayn denied that the text of his agreement with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has been amended, SPA reported. PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, a member of the PLO delegation that recently held talks with Husayn, also indicated that the agreement has not been amended, stating in remarks reported by SPA that it is "too early to speak of amendments" to the agreement. Contacts with the Jordanians are still underway, he noted.

'Arafat Activities, Remarks — Yasir 'Arafat praised French President Francois Mitterrand's position on the Palestinian issue at the end of talks in Tunis with visiting French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas, according to Paris radio. Meanwhile, MENA reported 'Arafat's *AL-WATAN AL-ARABI* interview, in which the PLO leader accused Syria of holding secret talks with Israel "under U.S. supervision" and claimed that Libya's Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi planned to use two aircraft "to attack my plane in the air."

Abu Nidal — Although AFP cited a JANA report that Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, was among the group of Palestinian leaders received by Al-Qadhafi on 6 March, monitored reports by the agency have not been observed to mention his presence at the meeting.

Pakistan

President Ziaul Haq, in an interview reported by Karachi radio, announced his intention to lift martial law within 2 to 3 months.

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Booklet Describes Propaganda War Against DRA*LD071223 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 7 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, March 6, BAKHTAR — The lie-spreading machinery of imperialism has continued a psychological war against the DRA, giving it ever broader dimension and depth, stated a booklet entitled "Afghanistan Target of Psychological War of Imperialism". It is published by the government printing press.

Nowadays, air is filled with different kinds "voices" such as Voice of America, BBC and Deutsch Oip, [as received] the CIA-sponsored radios, Liberty and Free Europe and other imperialist propaganda centres. Besides, the radio stations of Pakistani militarists and the ruling reactionaries of Iran and of the counter-revolutionary bands rehash the same matter in their own voices.

Every day one hears the slogans "threat to Islam" as also the repetition of the old and baseless myth of "Soviet threat" and a silly hue and cry about alleged "occupation" and "deprivation of freedom of Afghanistan". Forged information and reports of the infernal CIA from the "eyewitnesses," "aware new sources", "diplomatic sources", "unknown traveller" and "new sources of mujahidin" are being produced with the help of dollars, the booklet said.

The booklet added, that at present imperialist propaganda machinery has round the clock over 110 hours of radio broadcasts against the DRA.

The radio "Voice of America", is one of the main mouthpieces of Western propaganda machine, is broadcasting for 6 hours and 30 minutes daily wrong, distorted and provocative information against the DRA in Pashto, Dari and Persian languages.

The budget of this radio increased by 32 percent in 1983, exceeds 151 million dollars. The White House intends to increase the annual budget of this radio by another 28 percent.

Propaganda sources of imperialism, the book pointed out, use different forms and (?effects) for achieving quite different aims including the following: instillation of anti-Soviet spirit among Afghan peoples, as well as fear among the people of the region about "Soviet invasion". Creation of contradictions in the ranks of the PDPA and weakening of the combat power of the party. Sowing discord among the followers of different religions, nationalities, tribes and clans of the DRA. Discrediting the state of the DRA in the international arena by calling it "puppet" and spreading lies that "most of the country's area is in the hands of mercenaries" and so on.

It should be noted, the booklet marked, that the concoction machinery of imperialism and the circles attached to it coordinate their propaganda with brazen lies, fabrications, incitement of seditions, spreading of apparently deceiving forgery and misuse of the religions, national, tribal and local characteristics, general illiteracy and low level of political consciousness of Afghan people.

NEW TIMES Describes Rebel Attack on Village*LD071517 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 7 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, March 6, BAKHTAR — Counter-revolutionaries continue their subversive crimes against the people of Afghanistan. They kill innocent people, destroy public welfare projects, roads, bridges, set fire to mosques, schools and hospitals in the country. Kabul *NEW TIMES* carries an account of the so-called Etehad of counter-revolutionaries in this connection as follows:

It was January 8, while the Bekerabad village had sunk in full silence, suddenly the horrible sound of the rockets, hand grenades and shelling of the machine guns broke the peaceful atmosphere. It was committed by a group of mercenaries armed with the "gifted" weapons of the enemies of the people and Islam. They so wickedly attacked the residence of Abdul Rasoul, killed ruthlessly 12 of his family members.

Also, they did not stop at this but put petrol on the innocent corpses of the kids, youth and elders and then, put fire on them. This tragic event might sound an exaggeration to those who did not see it. But thousands of inhabitants (?of Herat) believe it, because they saw the 12 burnt corpses of the martyrs, in front of the emergency room of the Herat health centre. They cried and wept.

They chanted "down with the murderers, we are Muslims, and do not need the American and Chinese instructors. Let us live in peace and brotherhood."

Pakistan Placed in U.S. 'Militarist Orbit'*LD071823 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 7 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, March 6, BAKHTAR — Right now the peoples of the region are witnessing the expansion of relations, in particular, in military sphere between Washington and Islamabad, writes *DAILY HERALD*.

The daily adds that these relations have not only resulted in the ever increasing dependence of Pakistan on the USA, placing the former in the militarist orbit of the U.S. and creating a new source of threat for the neighbouring countries and the region, but also have an adverse effect in the affliction and misfortune of the working people of Pakistan.

The rulers of Pakistan, since the usurpation of power, want to ensure the prolongation of their tenure by hoodwinking the people of that country and the importing of unnecessary sophisticated weapons.

The Pakistani generals are directing their country towards the path, which was once traversed by the shah of Iran.

They are astronomically increasing the military budget of that country. For example, with the 20 percent increase in the military budget of that country for the fiscal year 1984-85, the military expenses indicate that they surpass 3 billion rps [as received] and this figure amounts to one third of the entire expenditures of Pakistan. With the use of 3.2 billion dollars of the U.S. aid they

are converting Pakistan into a big arsenal of sophisticated weapons and this process is continuing, the newspaper concludes.

Clandestine Reports Mujahidin-Soviet Clashes

LD072246 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Pashto
1130 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] According to reports from the blood-stained battlefields, the courageous fighters of Islam, during their infidel-breaking attacks on the military establishments and the logistic lines of the enemy, while in the course of crushing the forces of occupation and their servants, inflicted heavy losses on them.

Konar — According to a report from Konar Province, the fighters of Islam, in an attack on the besieged enemy forces in Chuney, inflicted heavy losses on the enemy; a helicopter was also shot down. Our correspondent adds that a Soviet and servant convoy moving toward Barikowt came under mujahidin attack while it was crossing the Konar River. As a result of this successful battle, 18 tanks and transport vehicles in the convoy were destroyed; 53 servant and Soviet soldiers were killed; and

47 Muslim soldiers joined the ranks of the peace-loving and faithful mujahidin.

Qandahar — A report from Qandahar states that recently a convoy of Soviet forces in this province came under heavy attack from the fighters of Islam. During a bloody attack, a number of transport vehicles in the convoy were destroyed and a number of the aggressors were killed and wounded.

Also as a result of an attack by mujahidin on the border battalion in (Bombol), four enemy men were killed and three wounded.

Vardak — According to a report from Vardak Province, a supply convoy of the aggressive and blood-thirsty Soviets was attacked by the soldiers of dear Islam in the Pol-e Sorkh area: two oil tankers were set on fire, a number of Soviet occupiers were killed, and four Muslim soldiers came over to the side of the mujahidin.

Faryab — Reports from Faryab say that a (?ZK-1 unit) of the enemy was set on fire following a mujahidin attack and all (?its passengers) were killed.

INDIA

Congress-I Wins Elections in 8 of 11 States

*BK071625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
7 Mar 85*

[Excerpt] With most of the election results now available, a focus has shifted to ministry formation in the 11 states and 1 union territory which had gone to the polls. The newly elected legislators of the majority parties in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, and Pondicherry are meeting tomorrow to elect their leaders. The election of the party leader in Orissa is likely to be held Saturday.

The majority party in Sikkim — the Sikkim Sangram Parishad — has already elected Mr Narbahadur Bhandari as its chief. All the newly elected assemblies are expected to be duly constituted by Sunday.

Except in Sikkim and Pondicherry, which were under president's rule, the ruling parties in all the other 10 states have been voted back to office. All the chief ministers have been reelected. Latest results show that the Congress-I has secured three-fourths majority in four states — Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Orissa. In Pondicherry, the Congress-I has secured two-thirds majority in alliance with the AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam]. It has also been returned to power in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan.

In Sikkim, the Sikkim Sangram Parishad has taken a three-fourths majority.

The Telugu Desam Party in Andhra Pradesh has secured a three-fourths majority along with its allies. It has taken a two-thirds majority by itself.

The third state where a non-Congress-I party has been returned to power is Karnataka, where the Janata Party has got an absolute majority.

All the results have come in from Karnataka, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, and Pondicherry. Only one result is awaited from Sikkim. The other states from where results are still awaited are Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh.

Curfew Imposed in Hyderabad Areas After Clashes

*BK080908 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
8 Mar 85*

[Text] Curfew has been imposed in eight police station areas in the old city of Hyderabad from this morning following post-poll clashes. The areas are: Mughalpur, Mir Chowk, Charminar, (Chatrinata), Bhawaninagar, (Shalibanda), Shamsherganj, and (Husaini Alam).

It may be recalled that six persons died due to post-poll clashes in Cuddapah, Kurnool, and Nalgonda Districts of the state during the last 2 days.

4 Killed in Riots

*BK081246 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
8 Mar 85*

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, 4 people died and 11 injured today following riots in the old city of Hyderabad. According to the inspector general of police, the police opened fire at three places to quell the violent mob.

PAKISTAN

Zia on Lifting Martial Law, Releasing Prisoners

*BK071739 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
7 Mar 85*

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has indicated that on 23 March a major portion of the Constitution will be restored and out of 18, 16 articles of the PCO [Provisional Constitution Order] will become redundant. The two remaining articles which (?relate) to fundamental rights and admission of writs in the courts will be canceled when the martial law is fully lifted from the country.

In an interview with a panel of (?federal employees), the president said at the moment he has under consideration two names for the post of prime minister. There could be other names also.

The president in a similar interview with a panel of the [words indistinct] stated that the martial law will be lifted from the country within a period of 2 to 3 months after which the parliamentary system will be allowed to function (?sincerely). The president stated that politicians would be released by the end of this month. He said politicians can contact the future prime minister or other ministers for talks.

Ziaul Haq Amends Order on Election Candidates

*BK071547 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
7 Mar 85*

[Text] The president has promulgated the House of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Elections 9th Amendment Order 1985. It will come into force at once.

Under the order, a new provision has been added to Article 10 of the House of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Election Order 1977. The provision says any person who has participated as a candidate for National or provincial assembly elections held under the relevant order and has lost will not be qualified to be elected or made a senate member.

Trial for Indian Hijack Suspects Begins 9 Mar

*BK071539 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
7 Mar 85*

[Text] It has been officially announced in Islamabad that the trial of the Indians involved in hijacking an Indian aircraft to Pakistan will begin in a special court of Punjab in Lahore on Saturday [9 March].

SRI LANKA

Security Forces Kill 11 Tamil 'Militants'

BK081000 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT

8 Mar 85

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the security forces have killed 11 Tamil militants in a village near Point Pedro, in the Northern Province. A Sri Lankan Navy commander said in Colombo that seven of the militants died in a shootout early in the day-long clamp down on Wednesday night while the remaining four were killed toward the end of the operation.

Further on Recent Attacks in Iran-Iraq War

Iraqis Urged To Rebel

GF071626 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Mahmud al-Hashemi, chairman of the Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] has made the following appeal to the sons of the Iraqi Muslim people: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. And fight them on until there is no more tumult of oppression, and there prevail justice and faith in God [Koranic verse].

O sons of our struggling nation in our beloved Iraq. Once again, the ruling crusader regime in Iraq adds another crime to the list of its crimes, by escalating its shelling of the Islamic cities. It provides proof of its barbarity and adds — by its own hands — a new figure to the misery of humanity in a new form.

O victorious people, this fire, which is kindled by rulers who have played havoc with Iraq, will destroy everything and destroy the land and its people. History and humanity rely on us to play the role of eliminating this vileness from our land and delivering people from its grasp. History wants it to be a popular revolution, a fire that will destroy injustice, and a volcano that will demolish the towers of tyranny. It wants it to be epics and battles of humanity.

As to you, the Army of Iraq, the nation does not want you to be an instrument of injustice that obeys the orders of the oppressors. The nation wants you to be an instrument of right, supporting religion and fulfilling the people's hopes and goals. Rise and rebel against the rule of the tyrants. Do not let your battlefield express the desires of arrogance. History does not forgive. Talk to us of the progress of liberation. It is imperative that there will be a historic stand which will transfer us to the homelands of liberty and sovereignty and add to our originality and principles. O ye who believe, if ye will aid God, he will aid you, and plant your feet firmly [Koranic verse].

[Signed] Mahmud al-Hashemi, chairman of the Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq.

Majlis Urges Response

GF071525 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1445 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Following the missile shelling of Dezful early today by the Saddamist regime — which resulted in the martyrdom and wounding of over 70 people of the Muslim civilian residents of this city — a message addressed by more than 150 members of the Majlis to the imam of the Islamic nation was read during the open Majlis session today.

The message referred to the presumptuous nature of the aggressive Iraqi enemy by shelling the residential areas in our country, using long-range missiles. The members asked his excellency, the commander of the Armed Forces, to undertake a suitable response to these hostile practices.

Iraqi Planes Bomb Abadan

LD071604 Tehran IRNA in English 1552 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 7, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes carried out bombing raids against the southern city of Abadan and near the north western town of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab Thursday afternoon.

Enemy aircraft attacked the port city of Khuzestan twice between 2:45 and 4:37 pm (11:15 and 13:07 GMT). Six people were martyred and 20 others were wounded in the first attack and 18 were wounded in the second, IRNA correspondent in Ahvaz reported. A number of women and children were among the casualties. Forty five homes, three banks, four hotels and a number of vehicles damaged in the first attack while fire broke out in several parts of the city, he said. Rescue workers, aided by the people, were continuing rescue operations.

The raids came after heavy artillery shelling of the city in the morning from the Iraqi side of the border, which martyred three people and wounded five more.

The Joint Staff Communique today also reported air raids against the surrounding villages of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, near the border with Iraq in Bakhtaran Province. It said the attack occurred just after noon today, causing a number of casualties.

Meanwhile, the joint staff reported that fire was traded in the middle and northern sectors of the battle fronts during the past 24 hours during which some casualties and damages were inflicted on the enemy forces.

In the Marivan and Haj 'Umran regions of the north, enemy infantry patrol units were sighted and forced back while two enemy personnel-carrying trucks were also hit and destroyed in the Chuman-Mostafa region.

In the southern fronts, nine Iraqi bunkers were smashed across the Arvand River as sporadic clashes took place in other regions.

Air Force Ready for Missions

LD071756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Ceremonies to mark the graduation of a number of pilots of Fighter Aircraft Base No 4, Dezful, were held this morning in the presence of Colonel Sediq, Air Force commander of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Air Force commander, referring to the recent missile attack by the Ba'thist Zionist regime of Iraq on the innocent city of Dezful, and pointing to the strong morale and steadfast will of the fast-flying pilots of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, stressed the full readiness of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran to carry out important missions deep inside Iraqi territory at the earliest time.

At the close of the ceremonies, prizes granted by the commander in chief, Imam Khomeyni, and Mr Khamene'i, chief of the Supreme Defence Council, were presented by the Air Force commander of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the graduate pilots.

Civilian Casualty Toll Updated*LD071716 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 7 Mar 85*

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Pr, March 7, IRNA — The civilian casualty toll in the two Iraqi air raids against Abadan this afternoon has risen to nine martyrs and 48 injured. The raids, after heavy Iraqi artillery shelling in the morning, came between 2:45 and 4:37 (11:15 and 13:07 GMT).

In Dezful, the relatively small number of casualties from the eight Iraqi missile attacks just after midnight today was due to precautionary safety arrangements, a military source told IRNA.

Iraq had warned about 24 hours earlier that it would attack 30 Iranian cities in retaliation for Iran's shelling of Basra, which were in retaliation for Iraq's air raids against Ahvaz and Bushehr on Monday.

Five people, including two children, were martyred in the attacks against Dezful and seventy others were injured.

So far, Dezful has been the target of more than 135 Iraqi missile attacks, more than any other city in Iran.

The missiles deployed were Soviet-built Scud-b and Frog types.

In the first 27 months of the war, 5,600 buildings, including several mosques and hospitals and many schools, were destroyed in the city in 46 missile attacks.

In only one missile attack in October 1980, 105 people were martyred and 306 were injured.

The last missile attack against Dezful was in mid-June last year.

Velayati Cables IAEA Board*LD071842 Tehran IRNA in English 1822 GMT 7 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 7, IRNA — The Islamic Republic called on the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) today to reconsider Iraq's membership in the organisation's Board of Governors because of its air raids against an incomplete nuclear power plant in the southern Iranian port of Bushehr.

Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati sent a cable to the IAEA director general, Hans Blix, also calling for the dispatch of a delegation to inspect the plant.

Velayati said Iraq had proven its "total disregard" for the goals and regulations of the organisation and thus "it is appropriate that the continued membership of this government in the Board be reconsidered."

The Iraqi attack against the incomplete plant violated IAEA resolutions passed in October and November 1983 "and is a new threat to the international efforts of utilising atomic energy for peaceful purposes."

De Cuellar's Comments Cited*LD072337 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 7 Mar 85*

[Text] The UN secretary general, by releasing an announcement, emphasized on the fact that Iraq has violated its international commitment on refraining from attacking residential areas by bombing nonmilitary areas in Ahvaz city last Monday [4 March]. The secretary general indicated in this announcement that the shelling of Basra by Iran last Tuesday has been a retaliatory measure.

According to the AP from the UN Organization, Javier Perez de Cuellar in this statement has said that the report concerning bombing the Iranian city of Ahvaz by Iraq last Monday and the retaliatory measure taken by Iran in shelling the Iraqi port city of Basra have frightened him. The UN secretary general in this announcement has once again called on Iran and Iraq to respect their commitment to refraining from attacking nonmilitary areas.

Missiles Hit Masjed Soleyman*LD072218 Tehran IRNA in English 2214 GMT 7 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran March 8, IRNA — Reports reaching here said that Iraq has also missile attacked the city of Masjed Soleyman, Khuzestan Pr. around midnight (local time) Thursday. There were no immediate reports on possible casualties and damage in this attack.

Communique No 2,029*LD080844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0800 GMT 8 Mar 85*

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to Communique Number 2,029 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

Dear Iranian nation, Muslim Iraqi ummah. The tyrannical regime of Iraq at 1230 yesterday, 7 March 1985, bombed Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and its environs, and at 2340 last night it hit Masjed Soleyman with five missiles. The criminal rulers of Baghdad should know that the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran ever since the beginning of the imposed war have always inflicted heavy blows upon the mercenaries of the Iraqi Ba'thists in the battlefronts, and for a long time they have remained patient in the face of the frightful crimes of the Baghdad regime which bring death and destruction to the inhabitants of our towns and villages.

However, in view of its religious and Koranic duty Iran was forced to retaliate in kind. Even then each time it has given adequate time and warning to the inhabitants of those towns that were to be shelled. This time, too, by giving repeated warnings to the American-backed Iraqi ruling circles and by warning that group of the Muslim people of Basra who for any reason have not been able to leave the city we announce that, in retaliation for

yesterday's bombing of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and last night's missile attack on Masjed Soleyman, we will again shell Basra from 1600 today, 8 March 1985.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Khamene'i Discusses Attacks in Friday Prayers

GF081216 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Friday Arabic sermon delivered by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran Friday imam and president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at Tehran University on 8 March — recorded]

[Text]. O Muslim nation throughout the world, during this week the forces of infidelity once again gnarled and added to their black history yet another (?instance) of their vileness and baseness. The Iraqi regime bombarded the safe cities of the Islamic Republic, and the agents of the international oppressors perpetrated a similar crime in Lebanon. This is not the first time the rulers of Baghdad and the Zionists have shared similar tactics and strategy.

The clique that has been inflicted on Iraq has reverted to its customary criminal methods of shelling towns, villages, and civilian areas. Two nights ago that clique launched a rocket attack on the heroic and steadfast city of Dezful while thousands of its children, women, and elderly people were sleeping quietly, destroying many houses with their occupants in them, killing or wounding scores of innocent people. Earlier it shelled Ahvaz, Abadan, and Khorramshahr. Last night it bombarded Masjed Soleyman. This gang that had begun to brag about peace cannot for one moment disguise its logic of aggression — the logic of gnarling and clawing.

During the past years of the war we exercised, from a position of strength and commitment, self-restraint and patience. For several years we did not react to the bombardment of our towns and villages and preferred to fight the enemy on the battlefields.

Last year the escalation of the aggression against civilians compelled us to threaten to retaliate. When our threats did not yield results we shelled — after 3 years of patience. When the Iraqi regime faced the consequences of our shelling — destruction and evacuation of the towns — it was forced to stop the actions it was constantly carrying out for 3 years. I should say that during the 3 years of constant bombardment of civilians the United Nations did not say a word and did not adopt any stand on the matter, despite the reports of observers and correspondents on the wide-scale crimes perpetrated by the Iraqi regime. When we began to retaliate the world organization hastened to mediate and asked the two sides equally to halt the shelling of civilian areas and did not mention who began the aggression and who was the first to kindle the fire. Naturally, we hastened to accept the UN request; the Iraqi regime also pledged to stop the shelling.

From that day until a few weeks ago the steadfast city of Abadan and its villages were repeatedly the target of shelling and air

attacks. Every time we confined ourselves to merely protesting and calling on the United Nations to send a factfinding delegation. We did not respond to Iraqi aggression throughout the period because we believe that we should not resort to such action unless we are compelled to do so.

A few weeks ago we threatened to retaliate in the hope that the stupid clique ruling Iraq would return to its reason. However, that clique persisted in its tyranny and aggression and reverted to its bombardment of Ahvaz and then Dezful, Abadan, Khorramshahr, and Masjed Soleyman, killing or wounding a number of innocent and safe citizens. Here we found ourselves compelled to retaliate. He who is compelled will have to do what he has to do. We carried out our threat in the hope that the murderous regime of Iraq will desist from its inhumane actions. It is strange that the United Nations reverted to the same role it carried out in the past. During the weeks in which the Iraqi regime continually shelled our towns and residential areas the United Nations remained idle and watched. However, as soon as we retaliated the UN secretary general asked the two sides, with the same approach, to desist from bombarding civilian areas.

O Muslims! O free people of the world! Peoples of the world no longer have any confidence in the United Nations. No oppressed person in the world can pin any hope on it. No person who can see and hear can doubt any longer that the world organization is run by the United States and the other tyrannical forces of the world. Nevertheless, we do not reject the United Nation's request to halt the shelling. Yesterday I asked the Foreign Ministry to respond to the world organization's request and agree to halt the bombardment of residential and civilian areas. I once again say to you here brothers and sisters, especially our brothers in oppressed, afflicted, and bleeding Iraq: We want to confront the aggressors in the battlefields and we do not at all want to fire a single shot at Iraqi cities. If the Iraqi regime is sincere in its bragging and flexing its muscles let it enter the battlefield. The battlefield that the Iraqi regime had initiated is still open. Why does the Iraqi regime not leave civilians in Iraq and Iran alone to live in peace and security and spare them the woes and fire of the war?

I say to the Iraqi people, to world public opinion and to the United Nations that we are — as we always have been — fully prepared to accept a halt to the bombardment of civilian areas. However I add that we are determined, God willing, to respond strongly and firmly to every aggression of this kind.

Let the Iraqi regime know that patience has limits and that we cannot always remain idle in the face of the continuation of such crimes. We will retaliate strongly in defense of our people. The aggression of the Iraqi regime and the weak and defeatist stands of the world organization will prompt us to crush the sensitive and important areas of Iraq — we are capable of doing this, with God's permission and praise be to God.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. "When the help of God and victory come, and you see men entering God's religion in throngs, then proclaim the praise of your Lord and seek His forgiveness, for He turns again unto men." [Koranic verse] Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

IRGC, Basij Members Leave for Battle Fronts

*LD071837 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT
7 Mar 85*

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that on 4 March more than 500 of the Basij members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Mazandaran left for the battle fronts against the Zionist enemy. Also in the last 2 days a large number of self-sacrificing members of the Basij and members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Baluchestan va Sistan, Fars, Bovir Ahmad va Kohkiluyeh Provinces and from Kashan, Damaghan, Neyshabur, Torbal-e heydariyeh, bojnurd, Esfarian and Gonabad have left for the battle fronts.

Ba'th Party Official's 'Murder' Ordered by Saddam

LD071933 Tehran IRNA in English 1859 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Pr. March 7, IRNA — A senior Iraqi Ba'th Party official, Shafiq al-Kamali, has been murdered on Saddam's direct order. Al-Kamali had served as member of the Ba'th Party and the regime's Command Council. He previously held the post of minister for youth affairs, the editor of *AL-AFAQ AL-ARABIYAH* weekly magazine and the governor of Basra. After his dismissal some time ago, Al-Kamali along with 18 other dissidents attempted to flee to a neighboring country but were arrested by Iraqi security agents.

Iraqi Muslim Fighters Attack Army Convoys

*GF072005 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT
7 Mar 85*

[Text] In continuation of their operations against the forces of the Ba'thist, Zionist Iraqi regime, Iraqi Muslim fighters attacked armored convoys belonging to the forces of the regime in the areas of Halabjah and Sayyed Sadiq in northern Iraq. They killed or wounded scores of Saddamists.

The main road between Halabjah and Sayyed Sadiq, which is considered the only road to supply the first Iraqi corps, was closed for 8 hours by the Muslim fighters during the attack.

Iraq 'Martyrs' 10 Dependents of Ayatollah Hakim

*LD081239 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
8 Mar 85*

[Text] According to a report by the correspondent of the Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Baqir al-Hakim in a speech during today's Friday prayers in Tehran announced: 2 days ago the Saddam regime martyred 10 seyyeds, ulema, and scholars from the household of the late Grand Ayatollah Hakim, who

languished in Baghdad jails for the past 2 years. He added: The pure bodies of these martyrs were handed over to the relatives of the late Grand Ayatollah Hakim for burial on Wednesday 6 March 1985.

The names of these 10 martyrs are as follows:

Martyr Ayatollah Seyyed 'Abd al-Majid, the son of Seyyed Mahmud Hakim, the nephew of Grand Ayatollah Hakim;
Martyr Hojjat ol-Eslam Dr 'Abd al-Hadi, the son of Grand Ayatollah Hakim;
Martyr Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Hasan, the son of Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Abd al-Hadi Hakim;
Martyr Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Hoseyn, the son of Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Abd al-Hadi Hakim;
Martyr Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mohammad Rida, the son of Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn Hakim;
Martyr Seyyed Mohammad, the son of Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn Hakim;
Martyr Seyyed 'Abd al-Sahib, the son of Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn Hakim;
Martyr Seyyed Dia al-Din, the son of Martyr Seyyed Kamal Hakim;
Martyr Seyyed Baha al-Din, the son of Martyr Seyyed Kamal Hakim; and
Martyr Seyyed Mohammad 'Ali, the son of Seyyed Jawad Hakim.

The spokesman of SAIRI [Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution in Iraq] announcing this news, addressing Islam's combatants and Iraq's Muslim Mojahedin said: The Saddam regime is now going through abject shakiness and helplessness. So rise and by intensifying your actions and battles, extirpate the roots of this anti-Islamic regime!

He added: The Saddam regime is already keeping more than 40 members of Grand Ayatollah Hakim's family in jail and more than 100,000 Iraq's revolutionary Muslim people under the worst possible conditions and is threatening them with death.

Addressing the Muslim people of Iraq and Iran and noble world Muslims he said: Rise and hasten to help Iraqi Muslim Mojahedin so that Islam's banner may be raised on the holy shrines; and I deem such a day very close!

Briefs

Khamene'i Receives Spanish Envoy — President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i received today Francisco Javier Oyarzun Inarra, the Spanish ambassador in Tehran, on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty in the Islamic Republic of Iran. [Excerpt] [*Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Mar 85 GF*]